U. S. Aid for Drought

†*359. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state·

(a) whether it is a fact that the United States of America have recently offered aid to India to fight drought situation; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI)· (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Officials level discussions are going on to finalise the details of the offer received from the US Government. Commodities likely to be covered under the assistance and their quantum and the value of the assistance are yet to be finalised.

Demarcation of areas for fishing boats under 100 per cent export-oriented scheme

*360. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the fact that new areas should be demarcated for fishing boats covered under 100 per cent export-oriented marine product units;

(b) what purpose is served by allowing such boats to fish in the same areas along with the other Indian fishing boats;

(c) whether the aspect of overfishing was not considered by the Ministry in this regard; and

(d) what steps are being taken to review the present policy which is having detrimental effect on fishermen of Orissa?

†Previously Starred Question 319 transferred from the 27th November, 1987

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY DF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESUORCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (d) Aprovals under the scheme of 100 per cent Export Oriented Units relate to deep see fishing vessels only. These approvals are granted taking into account the scope for introduction of vessels for different varieties of catch on the basis of technical estimates already carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture. The State Governments are expowered under the Marine Fishing Regulation Act to regulate the operation of these vessels so as not to prejudicially affect the operation of mechanised and non-mechanised fishing boats. The Government of Orissa have taken measures for this purpose under the said Act.

Visit of World Bank President to Drought Affected Areas

†2396. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:
SHRI RAMSINGBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVA-KOLI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank President had recently studied the drought conditions and the losses due to it and steps to meet the situation during his visit to various places in the country,

(b) if so, whether the Bank has sanctioned any assistance; what are its break-up and other details; and

(c) whether the Bank has made any suggestions to meet the situation?

†Previously Unstarred Question 1496 transferred from the 20th November, 1987.